

Forty Years of Innovation



**Wayland Public
Schools Foundation**

**2023
ANNUAL
REPORT**

Dear Friends,

We are pleased to share the Wayland Public Schools Foundation's first Annual Report, which covers our activities from July 1, 2022 until June 15, 2023. We hope you enjoy reading about the mission and goals of the foundation, the grants we funded, our fundraising events, and our business and community sponsors.

This year the foundation celebrated our 40th anniversary! Since its inception in 1983, WPSF has funded over \$4 million in grants. We are incredibly lucky in Wayland to have educators who want to go the extra mile for our students. Each year teachers and administrators submit grant proposals for cutting edge programs and teaching approaches that would otherwise go unfunded. This past year, we were able to offer \$94,344 in grants across the district. We are also pleased to announce that we have now incorporated The Children's Way into the foundation!

The WPSF hosted several fundraising events including the Amazing Race, Spelling Bee, 40th Birthday Party, Golf Scramble and Hats Off recognition to teachers. These community-building events, along with our annual appeal campaign, helped generate more than \$122,000 in net funds to be used for future grants.

This report reflects the hard work and dedication of our volunteer board of directors, to whom we are very thankful. We are proud of the success of the foundation and grateful to our community. Your ongoing generosity and support make it possible for the WPSF to have an impact on students across all the Wayland Public Schools!

With Deepest Gratitude,

Maureen Barnowski, WPSF President

Blair Ramsey, WPSF Vice President



MISSION STATEMENT

The Wayland Public Schools Foundation (WPSF) strives to enhance the educational experience of Wayland's students, support excellence and inspire innovation in classrooms throughout the school system. WPSF's goals are to raise funds each year, to sponsor community events, and to approve worthy grants that further WPSF's mission. In most cases, WPSF will only approve grants that support educational programs and resources not covered by the regular school budget. WPSF seeks to make advances in academics, the arts, curriculum-based athletics, health and wellness, student enrichment, and staff professional development by funding proposals that help improve teaching practices, transform student learning, and have the potential to make a significant difference in the quality of Wayland's educational programs.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Keep in touch!

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2022-2023 GRANTS FUNDED

PLAY FOR CHANGE

\$20,000

Lauren Kelly Talanian, Caitlin Golden, Jen Root, Niki Duffy,
Claypit Hill

This grant funded a year-long partnership between the Claypit Hill School kindergarten teachers with facilitators from Play for Change. Through theatrical experiences, puppetry, music and art, children experienced lessons in racial justice and learned to become change makers. The facilitators from Play for Change also worked with the kindergarten teachers to create and share anti-racist and social justice lessons. This work is directly in line with the adoption of School Committee Anti-Racism Resolution.

KINESTHETIC LEARNING IN THE CLASSROOM

\$4,938

Brian Jones & Laurel Pirelli, *Loker*

This grant funded the purchase of four pedal desks. The desks provide an opportunity for students to exercise while learning in order to help students who struggle with attention. The pedal desks will be a tool used to help make learning more accessible for students, as the kinesthetic activity can increase students' ability to be more focused and thoughtful in their learning, while at the same time students can benefit from the emotional regulation and endorphins that come with increased exercise.



“
Aaaaahhh!!! YAHOO!!!! If you heard a giant scream of excitement, it was coming from us here at Claypit Hill!!!! We are THRILLED and SO THANKFUL for your support of this amazing opportunity, and we will be so happy to share this experience with our students and colleagues!!!! THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!! With so much gratitude, The Claypit Hill Kindergarten Team

“
Thank you for this wonderful news! We are very excited and grateful for the support of the Wayland Public School Foundation!
Brian Jones, Loker School

2022-2023 GRANTS FUNDED

UKULELES FOR CLAYPIT HILL MUSIC CLASSES

\$2,110

Joy Slesinger, *Claypit Hill*

This grant provided funding for the purchase of 25 Makala ukuleles, ukulele strings, and hanging rack at Claypit Hill School. Third grade students will learn how to use the ukulele in their general music classes. Third, fourth and fifth grade students who participate in the Music Workshop class will receive ukulele instruction. Learning chords and basic melodies and gaining knowledge in how to read music will encourage lifelong music making.

HEAR HEAR! AUDIO BOOKS FOR ALL!

\$3,600

Colleen Flannery, Ruth Burman, Anne Powell, *Happy Hollow, Loker, Claypit Hill*

This grant purchased a number of eBook/ audio book titles on Sora to expand the library that is already in the elementary schools. The added titles will give students more readily available and easy access to popular audio books to further their enjoyment of reading. This is especially important for struggling readers whose interest would have waned while waiting for a book which would otherwise not have been available.



“

I am so grateful and excited to be able to use this grant to provide instruction on ukuleles to Claypit Hill students!!! Thank you so much!

**Cheers,
Joy Slesinger**

2022-2023 GRANTS FUNDED

SLANT BOARD LENDING PROGRAM

\$600

Hannah Rinehart, *Happy Hollow, Loker, Claypit Hill*

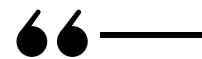
This grant created a lending program for slant boards, a general education support tool that helps students with common visual skills and fine motor development difficulties. The Occupational Therapy department will use these new slant boards for all general education students and staff to test their effectiveness for students who might benefit before determining that a student should have one on a permanent basis.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC GIANT CONTINENT MAPS

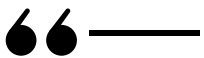
\$7,151

DeLima, Maria Alcocer, Leigh Hildalgo, Daniel Fernandez-Davila, Dylan Merry, Dalia Stewart, *Wayland Middle School*

This grant funded the acquisition of the National Geographic Giants maps for the social studies and world language middle school teachers to use with their students. The maps allow students to learn in an interactive manner and support their understanding of world geopolitics and world geography. The size of the maps encourages students to interact with them and experience lessons in a more engaging and dynamic manner. In addition to the maps, the grant supported the purchase of additional materials to use during social studies and world language lessons.



**This is the best news I have had all week! Thank you for all the work you do to support our students.
Hannah Rinehart, WPS**



**Thank you for your amazing contribution to our World Studies!! By buying us these spectacular giant maps you all have enhanced our World Map lessons so much.
THANKS GRACIAS GRAZIE MERCI DANKE OBRIGADO MAM'NOON
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Soc. Dept. WMS**

2022-2023 GRANTS FUNDED

ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE “A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE” PEER LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

\$15,750

Allyson Mizoguchi and Nicole Haghdoost, *Wayland High School*

This grant provided funding for the ADL Program “A World of Difference” to be implemented at Wayland High School. The program aims to build a coalition of student leaders with faculty support who are trained in and empowered to strengthen anti-racist and anti-bias practices from within the school community. Students selected as peer leaders will receive training and be mentored by adult program advisors from within the school and also the ADL. Student leaders will then meet with groups of students to provide education and skill-building around recognizing and addressing bias, communication around differences, build understanding of differences, and promote an overall environment of inclusivity, tolerance and belonging.

HEALTHY CULINARY SKILLS CLASS

\$2,000

Scott Parseghian, *Wayland High School*

This grant provided funding for new equipment for the Healthy Culinary Skills Class elective at Wayland High School. The additional appliances and cooking tools allow students the opportunity to explore and master new techniques in healthy cooking that they can then bring home to their families. This new equipment and the life skills learned in this class will continue to benefit students during their transition to adulthood and beyond.



THANK YOU for this exciting news!! Nicole and I are absolutely thrilled and are so grateful for the support of the Foundation. We are confident that bringing the ADL program to WHS will have a strong impact on the foundation of our school culture. We look forward to keeping you posted on our implementation and work moving forward!

**With immense thanks,
Allyson Mizoguchi**

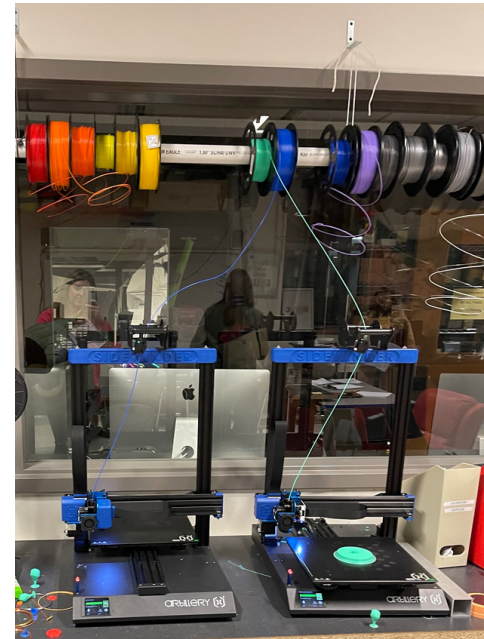
2022-2023 GRANTS FUNDED

WAYLAND EXPLORATION LAB FOR DESIGN (WELD)

\$38,185

Hayes Hart-Thompson, *Wayland High School*

Designed as a "school within a school", the Wayland Exploration Lab for Design (WELD) imagines a culture where students pursue projects that are meaningful to them and develop teamwork, empathy, and passion. The program leads students through a semester long Introduction to Innovation course, an elective of their choosing, and a year long capstone class for upperclassmen to utilize their own individual skills and passions on a team focused on incubating and accelerating an idea into an actionable project or business. In line with WPSF's mission, this program will be integrated into the curriculum by using current offerings and creating one additional capstone class to pull the program together. Additionally, there is an emphasis on social emotional learning that allows students to pursue ideas of interest, practice leadership and self-reflection through Stanford d. School's Library Design focused on diversity, equity and inclusion. This project encourages experiential learning and creative endeavors by allowing students to explore the methodology of innovation across their experience at Wayland High School. This will all be based in the WELD two part space that will allow multiple teachers and students to utilize innovation tools and methodology simultaneously.



“**Myself, our high school admin team, and our central admin team are pursuing an Innovation Pathway designation from DESE, and have secured an invitation to Part B of the Application as well as a Perkins Grant and planning funds. We are accelerating this program at a rate only possible with your support and will be releasing some very exciting updates soon!**
Hayes Hart Thompson, WHS

2022-2023 FUNDRAISERS

Amazing Race

In a race to remember last October, 21 teams raced around Wayland completing tasks at historic and public spaces across town. Each team had to solve clues to find six locations, complete a challenge at each location, and cross the finish line!



Hats Off

In December and June, Wayland families said “thank you” to special teachers and staff members with HATS Off! donations to the Wayland Public Schools Foundation. We issued 593 certificates, each with a personalized message of appreciation and a HATS Off magnet to display in an office or classroom.

Spelling Bee

Bzzz, Bzzz! With 368 Spellers, we had a record number of students in grades 2-5 form swarms and participate in our Spelling Bee! New this year, we welcomed Spanish Immersion students to join us spelling Spanish words.



40th Birthday Fundraiser

On a perfect spring evening, the Wayland community came out to celebrate our 40th birthday and to raise an incredible \$62,200 in net funds for future grants. The party was a huge success thanks to business and individual sponsors, donors and everyone who participated in a raffle, “balloon pop,” silent or live auction and Mission Ask. It was a beautiful night with so many members of our community out celebrating our schools and raising money to support teachers and students!



Golf Scramble

An enthusiastic group of golfers came dressed in their best Caddyshack style to par-tee for the WPSF! We had 44 golfers at Sandy Burr Country Club for an afternoon of golf, lunch, raffles, mulligans and fun times, all “fore” our schools!



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2022-2023 BUSINESS & COMMUNITY SPONSORS

THANK YOU to our sponsors, who help bring inspiration and excellence to every Wayland classroom and demonstrate a commitment to our community!



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